

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/651,851 Confirmation No.: 8124
Applicant(s): Richard G. CARTLEDGE *et al.*
Filed: August 29, 2003
Title: METHODS FOR CONTROLLING THE INTERNAL
CIRCUMFERENCE OF AN ANATOMIC ORIFICE OR LUMEN
TC/A.U.: 3774
Examiner: Sweet, Thomas
Docket No.: 28099-0005
Customer No.: 24633

MAIL STOP: RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, which the Examiner may deem relevant to the patentability of the above-identified application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within one of the following time periods: within three months of the filing date of this application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of this international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114. Therefore, no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The USPTO has waived the requirements under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(I) to submit copies of U.S. patent and U.S. patent applications, publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statement in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003, and International Application that have entered the National Stage under 37 USC 371 after June 30, 2003.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO-1449. The references contained in this Information Disclosure Statement were, in some instances, first cited

in the attached International Search Report mailed July 6, 2004, in counterpart International Application Nos. PCT/US2003/27278.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as "prior art" against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.


Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1349. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON LLP

Dated: April 14, 2008

HOGAN & HARTSON LLP
555 Thirteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 637-5703
Facsimile: (202) 637-5910
e-mail: cjcrowson@hhlaw.com
Customer No. 24633

By: 
Celine Jimenez Crowson
Registration No. 40,357